Volunteers

Volunteers are vital. Without you, we do not ride! We need volunteers to:

♦ Groom and tack horses;
♦ Lead horses or walk beside disabled riders with poor balance;
♦ Help with fundraising and office work, special events, ranch work and gardening.

No previous experience is necessary - you will be taught everything you need to know. Anyone 14 years or older can volunteer. If you are interested in volunteering please come by the ranch and observe a lesson.

Ride On requires that all volunteers participate in a basic training session to learn horse care, safety procedures and disability awareness. Training sessions are held monthly at each location. Riding lessons are available for volunteers at a nominal fee and we also offer continuing education including topics such as general horse care and stable management.

For continuity and training purposes we ask each volunteer to commit to a 1 - 4 hour time slot each week for the duration of our semester. Remember to dress comfortably, bring refreshments, wear sturdy shoes and be prepared to walk for up to an hour or two.

Wherever your talents lie, there's a place for you to help others at Ride On!

About Fees and Funding

Founded in 1994, Ride On is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation governed by a volunteer board of directors. Riders are charged for lessons but fees only cover 25% of our operating costs. A scholarship program is available according to financial need and depending on the success of our fundraising efforts. Donations have allowed our program to provide over 5,000 lessons per year.

Over 80% of every dollar spent goes directly to program services. Three out of four dollars go to just 3 items: our horses, our ranch, and our instructors.

Audited Financial Statements at www.RideOn.org

All contributions are tax deductible.

Tax ID: 95-4465783
Therapeutic riding is a unique combination of therapy, recreation sport and education. Specially trained instructors use their knowledge of disabilities to teach horsemanship skills to riders with varying ability levels. Some need lots of assistance while others may ride, jump and compete independently.

Therapy services

Therapy at Ride On is physical, occupational and speech therapy using the movement of the horse for rehabilitation. Licensed Therapists properly position the patient on the horse, analyze the patient’s response and direct the horse’s movement to achieve specific patient treatment goals. This unique therapy, which requires a doctor’s prescription, facilitates improved balance, postural control, sensory integration, mobility, communication, strength and behavior for patients of all ages and many disabilities.

Equine Assisted Psychotherapy

EAP is a team approach in which a licensed mental health professional, certified equine specialist and specially trained horses work together. EAP is not about riding; rather, therapists use interaction with the horse to help learn methods of dealing with a variety of problems such as depression, anxiety, grief and loss, past trauma, eating disorders and substance abuse amongst others. EAP activities produce endless experiences and situations for discussion and learning. Sessions are experiential, action-based, short-term and are equally effective for individuals, couples, families and small groups.

Getting Started

The needs of almost all riders can be accommodated safely; however, a doctor’s approval is necessary to ride. If you are interested in riding:

1. Download the necessary paperwork from our website www.rideon.org or call to have it mailed.
2. Fill out the medical history form, obtain a physician’s authorization and sign the release forms.
3. Return the completed paperwork to Ride On and then call Gloria Hamblin to set up an evaluation appointment.